IN THE CLAIMS

Please cancel claim 12.

Please amend claim 1 as follows:

1.   (Thrice Amended)   A signal processing system in which a set of automation commands are generated, said set of automation commands being generated based upon a timecode signal and a first set of automated signal processing functions associated with a first signal processing apparatus, said set of automation commands controlling said first signal processing apparatus by invoking said first set of automated signal processing functions, said automation commands also controlling the operation of at lease a second signal processing apparatus having a second, different set of automated signal processing functions and using a different timecode signal by similarly invoking said second set of automation signal processing functions.

REMARKS

Claim 1–12 were present in the application. Applicants have cancelled claim 12 and amended independent claim 1. Therefore, claims 1-11 are presented for consideration. This Supplemental Preliminary Amendment is intended to comprise a complete response to the final Office Action of July 24, 2000 issued in parent application Serial No. 08/586,094.

At paragraph 2 of the final Office Action in the parent application, the Examiner rejected claims 1-12 under 35 U.S.C. §112 as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which Applicants regard as the invention. The Examiner complained that claims 1 and 12 were still confusing. Applicants have amended claim 1 to remove this confusion, and have cancelled claim 12. Claim 1 now recites that a set of automation commands are generated based upon a timecode signal and a first set of automated

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